

REMARKS

This paper is being presented in response to an official action dated March 24, 2006. In the official action, claim 17 was indicated as allowable if recited in independent form because claim 17 requires the bicarbonate ion sensor to be “a differential pCO₂ sensor comprising an unbuffered pH-sensitive electrode sensor and a buffered pH-selective electrode sensor, said buffered pH-selective electrode sensor of said differential pCO₂ sensor being the same or different as the ion selective electrode comprising said pH sensor.”

Claim 16 has been amended to incorporate the relevant elements from claim 17, parallel amendments have been made to claims 1, 15, and 24, and conforming amendments have been made to claims 7 and 17. Claims 13 and 14 have been canceled.

Entry of the amendments and allowance of all pending claims 1-12, 16, 17 and 24-26 are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

All claims are now believed to be in proper condition for allowance. In the absence of more pertinent prior art, withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of all pending claims are respectfully requested.

Should the examiner wish to discuss the foregoing, or any matter of form or procedure in an effort to advance this application to allowance, the examiner is urged to telephone the undersigned attorney at the indicated number.

Respectfully submitted,

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